

AFTER the outburst of violence following Wycombe Wanderers 3-0 defeat at Ilford in the F.A. Challenge Trophy last Saturday, the club have issued the following statement:

'Over the past four seasons we have frequently commented on the wonderful encouragement given to the team by our supporters. It is very disquieting for the club, therefore, to note that recently an element of violence and hooliganism is being displayed by a very small minority of them. We have already been rebuked by League officials for incidents at the recent Ilford home game, and as club officials, we were ashamed at the conduct of some at Ilford last Saturday.

Our team manager has instilled the necessity for sportsmanship and self-discipline into our players, and we had hoped that their example would be copied by our supporters. I would emphasise again that we are talking of a minority, and am sure that the majority are embarrassed by their presence. As a club we cannot tolerate interference with play, damage to property or violent behaviour and offenders caught will be evicted and barred from the ground.'

A. J. CRUMP (Secretary)

Apparently the extent of the

damage was a broken window in the Ilford clubhouse but there were unpleasant scenes as the players and referee, Mr. K. Underwood of Romford, left the field.

AVENUE VISIT

Tomorrow (Saturday) Wycombe return to their Rothmans Isthmian League programme with a home match against Walthamstow Avenue. The Blues seem certain to be without their international centre back Keith Mead, whose shin and ankle were badly bruised after a tackle by Gibson at Ilford.

This means Dave Bullock will come back into the team alongside Alan Phillips, even though Dave himself is not fully fit. He too has an ankle injury that has been troubling him all season.

Apart from the centre back problem, Wanderers have few injury worries as John Maskell and Tony Horseman — who

both missed last Saturday's game — played in the 4-1 victory over Swindon in Tuesday's friendly, Horseman scoring a hat-trick.

Walthamstow are in their usual mid-table position this season with a team that contains some new, and some familiar faces. In goal is Vince Lindsay who has come into the side from the reserves. There is a new left back in Phil O'Reilly, last season's Eton Manor skipper.

Brian Wilson left the club for Enfield at the start of the term and his place has been taken by Dave Collins, ex-Southall. Regular defender Steve Copper is on Essex Youth team duty. Dennis Murphy, who scored two of Bishop's Stortford's four goals in the Amateur Cup final last year was one of Avenue's best captures during the close season.

Walthamstow's most recent signing is Chester Brown, an 18 year old striker they acquired

from West Ham. He has scored three goals in two games so far.

Top goalscorer this term is Terry Howard with eight while veteran Brian Jackson and Bobby Wiles have seven apiece. Best results for Avenue this term have been a 6-0 thrashing of Bromley and 4-2 victories over Clapton and Hayes.

ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE Division One

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Enfield | 19 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 40 | 13 | 49 |
| Ilford | 21 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 50 | 31 | 40 |
| Leatherh'd | 18 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 42 | 18 | 37 |
| Wycombe | 18 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 30 | 17 | 36 |
| Dulwich | 20 | 11 | 3 | 6 | 32 | 22 | 36 |
| Sutton | 19 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 37 | 25 | 32 |
| Dagenham | 13 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 29 | 13 | 29 |
| Bishop's St | 18 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 27 | 25 | 28 |
| Hendon | 21 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 29 | 34 | 28 |
| Barking | 21 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 38 | 36 | 28 |
| Tooting | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 19 | 16 | 26 |
| Kingston | 20 | 8 | 1 | 11 | 23 | 32 | 25 |
| Woking | 20 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 27 | 32 | 24 |
| W'ith'mst'w | 17 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 27 | 26 | 22 |
| Oxford | 19 | 6 | 3 | 10 | 27 | 33 | 21 |
| Ley'stone | 19 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 18 | 25 | 20 |
| Slough | 17 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 21 | 26 | 19 |
| Hayes | 20 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 26 | 37 | 18 |
| *Clapton | 19 | 8 | 0 | 11 | 28 | 40 | 16 |
| Hitchin | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 18 | 24 | 11 |
| Walton | 20 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 17 | 53 | 10 |
| Bromley | 19 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 12 | 39 | 10 |

*8 points deducted 29/11/74.